

# ROYAL NAVAL SCHOOL



VERDALA

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## FOREWORD

It seems but yesterday that Johnnie Smith of Infants 1 made his initial contribution to our first magazine - an interesting and original story of two and a half lines beginning "Once upon a time". But further research reveals that one year later he submitted "My Hobby" by John E. Smith (1st Year Junior) and in the present issue it is predicted that we shall find a mature article by the same John Edward Smith (2nd Year Junior) entitled "My Ambition" with "Once upon a time" written by his little sister, Jane.

Soon, surely, they must be due for return to U.K., but we trust that this will not deter them from future authorship. In the years to come we shall eagerly await John's protestations to the Editor of "The Times" concerning congestion in the Channel Tunnel and more optimistically perhaps, the publication of Jane's "Collection of Early Twenty-first Century Verse".

But not only the Johns and Janes of the school leave in due season; we trust not sadder but rather wiser for their sojourn. Teaching staff departures have been honoured in departmental notes and as we read each name our thoughts dwell for a minute on the distinctive and valued contribution made by each leaver.

To this list must be added the names of two other colleagues who have given such meritorious service. Though Mr. Publio Bonello, the School Caretaker for the past nine years, retired in February last, we still miss his cheerful greeting at the start of the school day and his farewell wave at its close. Also after flying proudly in the School Office for the last two years, the Stars and Stripes pennant was furled in early May when we said farewell to Mrs. Betty Murley, the School Secretary. Though this banner bore no 'strange device' it rightly merited the motto 'Ubique' to acknowledge Mrs. Murley's outstanding zeal and versatility in such a key role.

Finally a welcome to my successor, Instructor Commander Newbery. What can I wish better for him than that his stay proves as happy as mine has been, stemming from such grand support of colleagues, parents - and Johns and Janes?

**K. G. SUMNALL,**  
Headmaster.

## STAFF

### HEADMASTER

Instructor Commander K. G. Sumnall, O.B.E., R.N.

### DEPUTY HEADMASTER AND HEAD OF JUNIOR DEPARTMENT

Mr. P. Ross

### HEAD OF INFANTS DEPARTMENT

Miss J. Goffe

## JUNIORS

|     |                       |     |                               |
|-----|-----------------------|-----|-------------------------------|
| 4A  | Mr. K. Radford        | 2AJ | Mr. K. J. F. Woodhams         |
| 4AX | Mr. A. D. Powell      | 2B  | Miss A. L. Rowe               |
| 4B  | Mr. G. W. King        | 2C  | Mrs. L. R. Farrugia-Bell      |
| 3A  | Mr. S. R. Carrell     | 1AS | Mrs. W. Lewis                 |
| 3B1 | Mr. A. Wise, B.A.     | 1AJ | Miss S. Mutch, M.A.           |
| 3B2 | Miss M. P. Townsend   | 1BS | Miss J. Perkins               |
| 3C  | Miss L. Harris-Candey | 1BJ | Mrs. T. E. Lawton             |
| 2AS | Mr. D. R. Jenkins     | 1C  | Mr. D. Ager, B.Sc.<br>(Econ.) |

## MUSIC

Mr. C. J. Why

## RECEPTION/LIBRARY

Mr. J. Ousbey

## INFANTS

|    |                      |     |                    |
|----|----------------------|-----|--------------------|
| 1. | Miss B. Conisbee     | 8.  | Mrs M. G. Edwards  |
| 2. | Miss H. Durnford     | 9.  | Miss M. A. Stewart |
| 3. | Mrs. M. Cook         | 10. | Mrs. B. Jackson    |
| 4. | Miss J. M. McNally   | 11. | Mrs. J. F. Lissan  |
| 5. | Mrs L. E. Walters    | 12. | Mrs. J. Fry        |
| 6. | Miss J. Smith        | 13. | Miss M. Hodby      |
| 7. | Miss M. M. Threlfall | 14. | Mrs. N. Hitchen    |

Mrs. E. I. Rutland, S.R.N.

## SECRETARIAL STAFF

Mrs. J. M. Chaplin

Mrs. E. T. Murley



## JUNIOR DEPARTMENT

Our congratulations to our Headmaster, Commander Sumnall, on the award of the O.B.E. We consider this to be a great honour for the school as well as a well-deserved recognition of excellent service by Commander Sumnall to education generally. We have benefited in many ways from his untiring efforts at Verdala and we are delighted that he was serving with us when the award was announced.

Last year I listed the many clubs and activities available at the school. This year I leave it to parents reading the magazine to see for themselves just what is available. Thanks to the willing co-operation of the staff there must be at least one activity to suit every child. In fact we often have to limit the number of activities taken by the children so as to prevent overlapping. Timetables have to be organised for various facilities outside school hours so that groups do not clash. The stage is in constant demand and so a timetable is in operation for its use. Without this continuous planning, chaos would very soon develop.

This provision of large numbers of groups and clubs is as it should be, for the school must be a society of many broad interests and pleasures, academically and socially and not one of narrow and restricted academic studies only. The days of the "deathly hush", the permanently fixed rows of desks, and the "Don't you dare move!" warning have been replaced by the hum of lively interest and activity, the grouping of movable desks and the admonishment of the wrong-doer by his irate classmates who are too busy and interested to be interrupted by the thoughtless and idle. Children must be taught to think for themselves, work for each other and impose self-discipline for the sake of the group. Those parents who saw the school science demonstration on a previous open day will have some idea of the class atmosphere of the new school society.

At Verdala we aim to keep pace with the new but at the same time to salvage the best from the old. Continuous efforts are made to keep the syllabuses and outlook of the school up-to-date. It is easy for a school to gently slide along in a well-worn groove because it enjoys a good reputation among parents based on 11+ results, sports, drama, music or behaviour. It is so easy to concentrate on one aspect of education and build an empire for the few. At Verdala we try to avoid this and hope to make the school a centre where each child develops to the fullest its every skill and interest. Only this way can a school be said to be fulfilling its proper function in society.

This school year a new syllabus will be introduced for Mathematics. It is generally realised that a new approach to the study of this subject is essential. This does not mean that the need for computation has disappeared. Children will still need



to add, subtract, multiply and divide and know their tables but more emphasis will be placed on the historical, practical and problematical angles of Mathematics than has been the case in the past. Previously a mechanical process correctly operated was considered sufficient skill for a child. In the age of the computer, the mechanical process really does become a process carried out by a machine and the demand now is for machine operators who can visualise the correct processes to be operated by the machine to produce the right answer. In brief, to know which button to press and this requires thought. Therefore our additional aim in Mathematics must be to teach children to more fully understand initial concept in number and thereby to be more able to think for themselves. In line with our policy "the best from the old and the new", two syllabuses will operate side by side for two or three years until a single syllabus based on staff experiences is produced.

Last year a new Science syllabus was adopted and next year the English syllabus will be re-written. This process of change will continue even though the present syllabuses are comparatively new. It is this continual change which is so necessary for healthy growth. For example, we continue to experiment in the use of biro to replace pencil in the first and second years. A report on this will be called for at a later date. Our 'age-plus-ability' streaming of infants transferred to the Junior Department, now in operation for the second year, would appear to be a success academically as well as socially. Finally, thanks to the efforts of our Headmaster, we now have a portable swimming pool which proved remarkably successful last summer. And so, despite our distance from the U.K., our frequent changes of staff and children, I am confident that when the Plowden Report on Primary Education is published, this school, thanks to the efforts of a hard-working staff, will not be far behind in modern theory and practice in education.

Last September we were sorry to say "good-bye" to Mrs. Ellis, Miss Moore, Mr. Bloom, Mrs. Anderson and during the autumn term of this year to Mrs. Pitcher, Mrs. Robson and Mrs. Jenkins. All made excellent contributions in their own way to the good of the school and the welfare of the children and we miss them all very much indeed. We wish them every success wherever they may be.

Last term we welcomed Mrs. Hickling, Mrs. Lawton and Mrs. Cook and this term, Miss Mutch who joined us from the U.K. All have settled well in the happy atmosphere of Verdala and we wish them all a very pleasant stay in Malta. This continuous change of staff and children produces many difficulties not encountered in U.K. schools but thanks to the untiring efforts of the staff, the children generally suffer little from these unusual circumstances and return to the U.K. capable of fitting into the normal school routine.

**P. ROSS,**  
Deputy Headmaster.

## INFANT DEPARTMENT

Since the beginning of the Autumn Term and until the end of February, we have had two hundred and thirty eight new admissions and ninety-nine leavers in our department. For more reasons than one these figures seem almost impossible.

The four Reception classes have all settled down so happily, and the other 'new' children, perhaps after a few moments of apprehension, have fitted into their age group very quickly. (Most classes have a range of approximately three months.)

At the same time we feel that the children who have left us have returned to U.K. equipped to the best of their ability, and that the seven year olds will, by July, be able to cope with the extra demands of a Junior Department, wherever it may be.

For the children who have at least one more Infant year, there is so much to look forward to, and always something new and different for them to do.

No one visiting us, seeing the children in their classrooms, the Hall and playground, during their various individual, group and class activities, would be aware of the constant changes here.

It is not only the children who feel so 'at home', there is also a very special feeling of loyalty and team-work throughout the whole Staff, Infant and Junior, and we, in our department, do appreciate this particularly.

In every school Christmas is a time when a special effort is made to give the children the thrills and excitement of the obvious material world, but what is much more difficult to achieve is an awareness of the wonder of the Nativity.

The parents who were able to see our Nativity Play, feel, we are sure, that our children were able to show this through their simple interpretation. The photographs of the Play illustrated their reverence, and the very re-assuring remark of one mother, "I have never seen anything so simple but so beautiful," the appreciation of the audience.

It is obviously not only at Christmas that we attempt to foster in our children the full meaning of life. The whole aim of their training throughout is to give them an ever-growing sense of their responsibilities, as individuals and as part of a school, family and community as a whole.

In July Miss North left us, and in her last report wrote, "It is such a happy school where one's work seems really worthwhile." How right she was, and how much she did to cultivate this atmosphere!



Also in July we said 'Goodbyes' to Miss Head, Mrs. Algar, Mrs. Roberts, and Mrs. Davies, and then at Christmas to Miss Walker, all of whom had done much valuable work.

In the Autumn Term Miss McNally, Miss Threlfall, Mrs. Lissan and Mrs. Fry joined us, and since Christmas we have had Miss Hodby and Mrs. Harnden to complete the team.

To those who now say, "That was Verdala that was," we send our best wishes, and for those of us here now, teachers and children, I hope that the school will reflect every ray of the sunshine of Malta.

**J. GOFFE**

**Head of the Infants Department**

## **PREFECTS - JUNIOR DEPARTMENT**

It is with pleasure that we publish a list of Captains and Vice-Captains for the school year 1963/64.

It is a great honour to be elected Captain or Vice-Captain for the House and it is obvious that those elected appreciate the honour that has been bestowed on them. Throughout the year the children concerned have been a great help to the staff in many ways and we thank them most sincerely and wish them every success during the Secondary stage of their education.

### **Autumn Term**

|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| DRAKE-Captain       | Vice-Captain     |
| Elizabeth Walker    | Raymond Edwards  |
| HAWKINS-Captain     | Vice-Captain     |
| Keith Morris        | Linda Erickson   |
| NELSON-Captain      | Vice-Captain     |
| Christopher Jenkins | Annette Gledhill |
| ST. VINCENT-Captain | Vice-Captain     |
| Carolyn Duffield    | Richard King     |

### **Spring Term**

|                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| DRAKE-Captain       | Vice-Captain        |
| Elizabeth Walker    | John Molden         |
| HAWKINS-Captain     | Vice-Captain        |
| Jill Henwood        | Ian Renwick         |
| NELSON-Captain      | Vice-Captain        |
| Annette Gledhill    | Christopher Jenkins |
| ST. VINCENT-Captain | Vice-Captain        |
| Richard King        | Carolyn Duffield    |

### **Summer Term**

|                     |                                   |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| DRAKE-Captain       | Vice-Captain                      |
| Elizabeth Walker    | John Molden                       |
| HAWKINS-Captain     | Vice-Captain                      |
| Ian Renwick         | Susan Harkes                      |
| NELSON-Captain      | Vice-Captain                      |
| Christopher Jenkins | Annette Gledhill &<br>Jan Walters |
| ST. VINCENT-Captain | Vice-Captain                      |
| Marie Dewhurst      | Richard King                      |

**P. ROSS**



## STAFF REPORTS

### MUSIC DURING THE YEAR

#### Carol Service

Padre Truelove led our Christmas worship at the end of 1963. The traditional service of lessons and carols was conducted by various children from classes in the school. The choir sang "Mater Ora Filiam", an Irish Air arranged by Charles Wood, and the Music Groups combined for "Away in a Manger".

#### Inter House Music Festival

This was a new venture in which the House Choirs, drawn from all years, sang two songs and had a soloist each to entertain us. There were two violinists and two pianists. We were fortunate to have Mr. Richard Gerrard, the Music Teacher from Tal Handaq, at the festival to hear the choirs and to encourage us to further efforts with some helpful remarks. His main thought was that the children, who appear so interested at this Junior age, should not lose this interest when they reach the Secondary Schools.

The Music Groups played three items, combining their talents, and the School Choir led us in "Down to Rio", a sea shanty. The informal, enjoyable afternoon finished with all the children singing Thomas Dunhill's "A Village Hymn".

#### Combined Music Festival - St. Andrews

This year the Army was our host for the Festival. Miss Anne Lawrence, of West Sussex, was again the adjudicator and conductor, bringing us news of the trends in Music Teaching in U.K. We are evidently on the right lines with our interest in various musical instruments and the accent on making music for enjoyment, as well as more straightforward singing.

The Choirs and Orchestra combined well in the "Uist Tramping Song", "Loudly Proclaim" and the lovely "Non Nobis Domine". Other songs were sung with piano accompaniment, and the other schools gave their individual items. Once again the afternoon was most interesting and enjoyable. Parents, friends and children who were there now know what it is to have Bats in the Belfry!

#### Notes to Parents

Please follow the maker's instructions about blowing new recorders. The wood sometimes splits if it is used too much when new. Half an hour per day is the maximum 'blowing time' at first.

The guitar is a most difficult instrument to play and the club we have at school will not teach your child to be a virtuoso. A good guitar teacher and hard practice are essential. At school we can give the children knowledge of a few chords and notes but much can be done by each child's own interest and willingness to play and experiment by himself.

Finally, a thank you to all those parents who so willingly hand out the hard earned money for their children to purchase recorders, harmonicas, etc., and to those who undergo the squeaks, moans and groans which inevitably make themselves heard at first. Just a thought - anyone interested in a Bagpipe Club?

C. J. WHY

### CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME

Our Christmas show this year was "The Nutcracker Suite" and both Junior and Infant Schools threw themselves into the story whole-heartedly.

There were Cossacks and Chinamen, Arabs, Sweets, hundreds of them, and the Puppets. These were splendid ones, made by Mr. Carrell and were most important to the plot.

David Franklin as the Nutcracker played well, going so far as to silver his hair so that he would look like metal.

Jill Henwood was charming as Marie and Michael Smith as her brother, a good contrast. Sandra Clark and Marie Dewhurst were strong supporting players. Richard King as the King of Sweets electrified everyone by his command of a stage full of Smarties, Butterscotch and the like, all hurling themselves around.

One of the most beautiful and talented items was provided by the Recorder Group playing the "Reed Flute" music. Surely one of the hardest things to play on recorders.

Mr. Why our Music Master, worked very hard with the score, having to train the choir and transpose the music for them.

The scenery, brightly coloured, painted by Mr. Wise, was a complete success and gave a dreamy quality to the fantasy.

Our thanks to everyone who helped back-stage and with costume. It was a back breaking job, but all the parents responded well and made the show a real success.

A. ROWE



## NETBALL

During the Autumn Term the annual Inter-House Netball Tournament was held. The games were exciting and finished with a draw for first place, in spite of a replay. Equal first came Hawkins and St. Vincent, with Drake third, and Nelson fourth.

In the Spring Term the Inter-Schools Rally took place, the matches being played on Saturday mornings. The standard of play was much higher this year and the Verdala "A" team worked really hard and well deserve to have gained the Netball Shield for the third successive year. They have also beaten the 1963 Verdala "A" team's record, for this year's team has won every match.

The Verdala "B" team has also had some exciting games, although mumps and colds prevented several regular members from playing in all the matches. The Verdala "B" team came third.

For the first time we had a third team, consisting mainly of girls from the Third Year. They reached a high standard and won three of the four friendly matches which they played.

I should like to thank the faithful band of supporters, especially the mothers and fathers, who braved wind and rain to come and encourage the teams every Saturday morning.

**"A" Team:-** C. Finch, D. Eyres, L. Hughes, M. Dewhurst,  
E. Walker, J. Tipple, C. Duffield.

**"B" Team:-** S. Driver, J. Radford, H. Greenwood, J. Walters,  
J. Binns, A. Gledhill, J. Fraser.

**Third Team:-** S. Clark, J. Carter, M. Martin, L. Townsend,  
R. Smith, S. Harkes, A. Thomas.

**Reserves:-** K. Twidale, B. Parr, I. Liddle, H. Smith.

**M. P. TOWNSEND**

## FOOTBALL

For the first time since the inception of Inter-Service Schools' Football League Verdala entered three teams. The third XI was chosen from the fourth year boys who were unable to command a place in either the "A" or "B" elevens but were keen to play football. Entering an extra team meant that every school had a fixture each week during the term.

This year there was a very keen spirit of rivalry and competition amongst the schools and it wasn't until Verdala "A" met St. Andrews in the last week of the season that the struggle for the trophy was resolved. After a fine game Verdala "A" drew with St. Andrews, 2 - 2, and retained the Bowie Cup.

The following boys received championship medals on Prize Day.

John Molden (Captain), Richard Entwistle, Peter Clarke, Ian Renwick, Norman Lock, Paul Ambrose, Nicholas Wrigley, George Molden, Stephen Silcox, Christopher Everden, Colin Edwards, David Franklin and Eric Whipp.

Verdala "B" team representatives:

Stephen Cole, Gary McQuilken, Douglas Gray, Peter Llewellyn, Robert Stevenson, Keith Woodcock, John Fawcett, John Brown, Graham Lark, Michael Deas, Paul Purnell and David Stone.

Verdala "C" team representatives:

Steven Tebb, James Woodhams, Richard King, Angus Cooper, Paul Rutter, Ian Clements, Jimmy Owens, Andrew Holley, Ralph Taylor, Gary Morris, Robert Walton, Phillip Wallace, Steven Fletcher, Christopher Jenkins, Keith Morris, Nicholas Holloway, John Jones and Adrian Luff.

## INTER-HOUSE FOOTBALL

Drake House, captained by John Molden, won the inter-house championship when they defeated Hawkins in the final. The competition was played during the Autumn Term 1963.

**J. OUSBEY**

## ANNUAL ATHLETIC SPORTS 1963

For the first time in many years there was a real danger of our Sports Day being postponed, but, despite low clouds and showery interludes, a full programme was successfully concluded.

Each house provided competitors for the running, jumping and throwing events and children not lucky enough to be chosen for these were able to take part in the class novelty races. A new event on the programme this year was the Medley Relay for which race each house picked a first, second, third and fourth year representative. This, and the Inter-School Relay Race, were very exciting events and we congratulate St. Andrew's School on their fine win.

In the final event, the Inter-House Tug of War, the referee was Admiral Viscount Kelburn. Nelson house defeated Hawkins after two straight pulls.



The House Championship trophy was presented by Lady Kelburn to Angela Winchester and Kim Pegram, captains of St. Vincent House.

We should like to thank the Rev. Father Brookes, Rector of St. Edward's College, and his staff for the loan of their field and equipment. Their friendly cooperation and help are major factors in ensuring the success of our Annual Athletic Sports.

**D. R. JENKINS**

### ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY GROUP 1963

We thank Miss Page, Mrs. Murley, Mr. Wise, Mr. Woodhams, Mr. Jenkins, Mr. Radford and Mr. Why for their help in running the Group and also P.T.I. Gregory and Staff of Ricasoli Lido for help with the water drill.

It is delightful to work with children who are so keen and interested and who are willing to spend so much of their spare time working for their certificates. We wish all members of the 1963 group every success in the future.

Twenty-five children were awarded the Elementary Certificate and seven gained the Unigrip award.

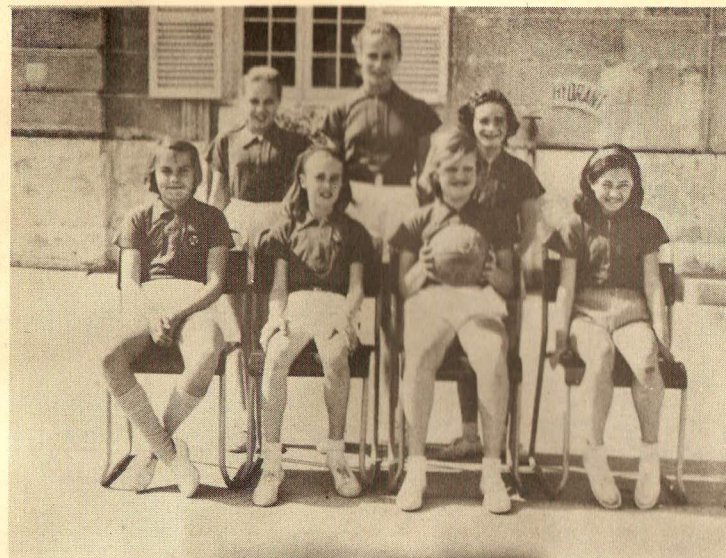
#### Elementary Certificates

|              |              |             |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| M. Dooley    | A. Toogood   | S. Hansen   |
| J. Matthews  | V. Wismayer  | R. Semmens  |
| J. Masters   | P. Wilson    | G. Gain     |
| S. Wheeler   | M. Ambury    | T. Taylor   |
| D. Arnold    | D. Connor    | B. Simmonds |
| L. Adams     | T. Matthews  | P. Record   |
| K. Smith     | B. Tregurtha | I. Rees     |
| J. Greenwood | T. Read      | S. Keating  |
|              | P. Taylor    |             |

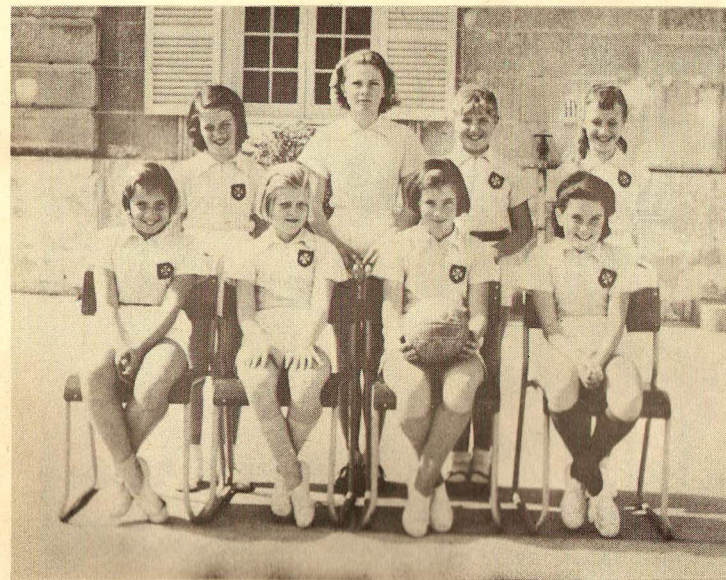
#### Unigrip Certificate

|         |             |           |
|---------|-------------|-----------|
| R. Ross | S. Smith    | J. Tipple |
| P. Nye  | S. Hurst    | A. Coyle  |
|         | B. Houghton |           |

**P. ROSS**

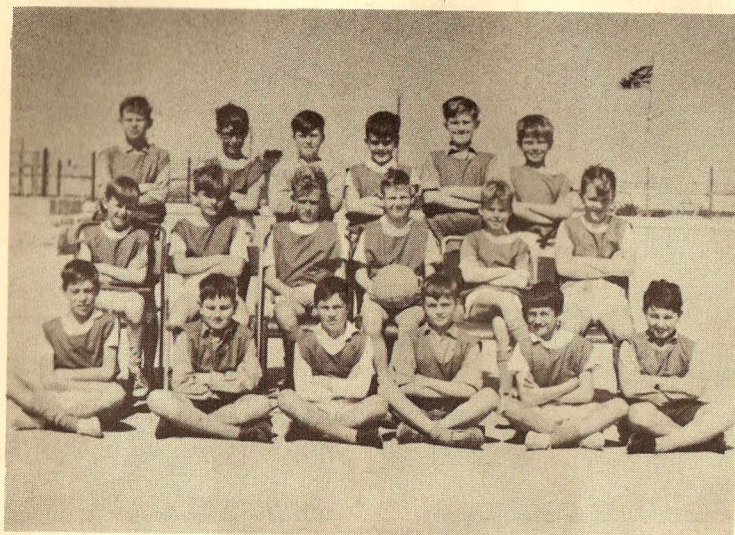


Verdala "A" Netball



Verdala "B" Netball





Verdala "C" XI



Verdala "C" Netball

## INFANT NEWS

Tortoise eggs take six months to hatch usually.

There is a rocket that has gone up last night to hit the moon in Africa.

**Nigel Allfrey (Infants 10)**

My Daddy works on the Agincourt and he was so tired he decided to go home.

My mother went out one day. She bought a polythene bag.

**Stephen Fitzgerald (Infants 10)**

I went to the Carnival and I saw my Mummy's friend Sammy and I saw the penguins dancing and I saw a funny face.

My brother left his mac on the bus and my Mummy said if he didn't have his mac he wasn't allowed in.

**Susan Cole (Infants 10)**

Here is a little boat with men in it. I like men.

Susan has her stabilizers off.'

**Susan Dew (Infants 10)**

My naughty little sister went to the cupboard and she got a jar of jam. She ate it all up and her mother saw her and she got a big smack on her bottom and she was screaming her head off. Her head really came off.

**Jane Doyle (Infants 10)**

My mother went shopping and she got some sweets. And I went with my mother on Monday.

**Gillian Stevenson (Infants 9)**

My mother's birthday was on Sunday. She had a cookery book. We had visitors to lunch. She did use the cookery book.

**Steven Beattie (Infants 9)**

Here is an elephant. Two children are feeding him. The elephant wanted some more buns. They were nice buns.

**Stephen Oliver (Infants 9)**

My mummy sat by the fire and talked and talked. My father said, "Stop," and they all went to bed.

**Shelagh Pope (Infants 8)**

I saw a castle and it had a sign "NO PARKING". A car didn't look at the sign and a gun shot out of the castle.

**Kevin Harding (Infants 8)**



It is my birthday soon and I want a sewing machine and a french-knitting set and a watch.

**Heather Williamson** (Infants 8)

I would love to be married.

**Sigrid Anthoni** (Infants 8)

Today it is raining. The ground is wet and not many people are wearing boots but quite a lot are wearing macs.

**Frances Richards** (Infants 8)

I went to church in my Daddy's car last night. The stars were shining on the church and the moon was shining on the church and it was dark.

**Stephen Why** (Infants 8)

One day I went for a walk in the fields and I saw my friends playing in the fields. But I didn't just see my friends, I saw some horses.

**Lynn Webb** (Infants 7)

When my Daddy comes out of the Navy we are going to have a dog. My Daddy said we are going on a little boat before we go home.

**Helen Thornton** (Infants 7)

In England I saw the Queen. She came along my street. She was like a Princess.

**Susan Wellburn** (Infants 7)

My apple tree is in the garden and my apple fell off and I ate my apple. Mummy said, "Naughty girl," and she said, "Go to bed."

**Susan Lane** (Infants 7)

#### **THE CARNIVAL**

I went to the Carnival on Monday. I saw a lorry with a cow standing on a green pole with a point at the top of the green pole, and I saw a giant on the side of the lorry in the front of it. There were two holes in the cardboard so that the driver could see where he was going. On Sunday it was not on, but we went to see the lorries parked.

**Anthony Webb** (Infants 6)

Last night before I went to bed I peeped out of the curtains and I saw twelve stars and I saw a jet go right through the stars.

**Alison Dean** (Infants 5)

Last night my mummy and daddy went to a dance, the baby-sitter came to look after me and my brother. He woke up and woke me up as well. When my mummy and daddy came home they told me why they were so late. They said they had a puncture and they said it was nearly 2 o'clock. In the morning I didn't want to get up and I didn't eat my breakfast. My mummy had to dress me. I didn't even want to go to school.

**Susan Crane** (Infants 4)

I am going to sing to the Infants and Juniors in the hall I think. My sister may laugh at me when I am singing because I have one gap in my teeth.

**Margaret Metcalf** (Infants 4)

At home I make icing. First you put icing sugar in a bowl and then you put hot water in and mix it up. I put the icing on the cakes if I want to. I can also make the little cakes.

When I grow up I want to be a cook.

**Sage Roberts** (Infants 3)

I had my hair washed and this morning my hair was so soft that Mummy thought my hairslide would fall out of my hair.

I have a watering can but inside there is shampoo and it smells beautiful, like flowers.

**Jennifer Wright** (Infants 3)

I went camping in England with my cousins. I picked some blackberries and took them in the tent. When morning came we woke up and we ate the blackberries for our breakfast. It was luscious. We had a good time and then we all went home.

**Russell Honeywood** (Infants 3)

It was my birthday on Saturday the 9th February and a lady gave me a puppy. I call him Toffee because when I lift him up he is so comfy I feel that I want to eat him.

**Nicholas Bence-Trower** (Infants 3)

Last week I started Brownies but I am a Tweenie really. I am getting enrolled in six months time.

Our teacher's name is Brown Owl. We do lots of things at the Brownies. We dance round the toadstool and play games as well.

**Sharon Upton** (Infants 3)



On Saturday we had cherry pie because it was George Washington's birthday. We have cherry pie because once George Washington had an axe for his birthday and he had no wood to chop so he chopped down his daddy's best cherry tree.

When his daddy saw it he said, "George, did you chop down my cherry tree?" George could not tell a lie so he said, "Yes." His daddy said, "O.K. George." And he never chopped down his best cherry tree again.

**Edgar Vaughan** (Infants 3)

On Saturday I went out to dinner. I went in a Consul. We had pies and very good pop. We had cheese and twistees. When we were at Rabat we did not know that we had a puncture and we had to put on a new tyre. The Maltese helped us.

**Stephen Marlow** (Infants 3)

On Sunday I went to my Aunty's house and we had tea with her.

We had chips and ham. It was lovely and I ate it all. My brother ate all his but when he had finished he put his dish onto the floor.

Then we got down from the table and played ships with boxes until it was time to go home. That was lovely too because on the way home we looked at the stars.

**Suzanne Prisk** (Infants 3)

I am going to join the Navy when I am eighteen. Before I go on the ships I will have to go to London to a big school where you have to wear a sailor suit.

**Tony Martin** (Infants 2)

I have a globe of all different countries all over the world. Italy is shaped like a boot. It has two points on the end. England is in the middle of the sea. Malta is a dot. Ireland is near to England. Scotland is on top of England. England looks quite big with Scotland on top of it. The name of the capital city of Italy is Rome.

**Steven Baldwin** (Infants 2)

Denise had mumps and Denise came back the same day as me. I had an infection in my chest and the doctor said that I could wear a bikini when I grow up because he said that I had a flat tummy'. And when I had an infection in my chest I could not eat anything. I could only drink hot water and I had to stay in my bed because if I walked I could not even stand.

**Senga Bugden** (Infants 2)

Sometimes when my sister and I are playing ghosts my mummy puts a sheet over her and pretends to be a ghost. The night before yesterday night mummy got some brown cotton and put it in the bedroom on the door and when I went into the bedroom it tickled my face. Mummy said it was a spider's web but it wasn't. It was just brown cotton.

**Michael Mogar** (Infants 1)

My daddy has gone into Bighi again because Mummy said that daddy is having his big toe off. Daddy took me down to the bus stop this morning and daddy is staying in Bighi for a long time.

**Jayne Pullman** (Infants 1)



## INFANT STORIES

Once upon a time there was a giant who lived in a big house. He killed a little boy and girl called Peter and Sandra, so there was nobody left again.

**Ian Cross** (Infants 11)

Here is my big doll. She can go dancing and she goes to ballet, so she can do all sorts of things. When she went to Ballet, I said, "Be a good girl."

**Janet Cleave** (Infants 11)

Once upon a time there were two fish and their keeper brought them to another part of the world by a rocket

**Frances Richards** (Infants 8)

Once upon a time there were twins. Their names were Tom and Andrew. One day they went to school. Their teacher was happy and they were very happy because it was snowing. Their friends were happy. The snow was very deep. The children played in the snow. They made a snowman.

**Alexander Cocker** (Infants 6)

One day a little rabbit went for a walk and then he lost his way home. He met a mother rabbit and he said, "Hello." And then he said, "Am I your baby rabbit?" "No, you are not my baby rabbit," the mother rabbit said. "Your mother is under the oak tree." "Thank you," said the baby. So the baby went to the oak tree. "Are you my mother?" "Yes, you are my little rabbit."

**Susan Greenwood** (Infants 6)

Once upon a time there was a little bear. He was all alone because his mother and father were dead. So he set off. Soon he said to himself, "Now it is night. I shall find an open window and climb in." He found one and he climbed in. He went in a bed and crawled right under the covers and went to sleep.

The next morning when the little girl woke up she felt something tickling her feet. She went down to see what it was. When she saw the little teddy bear she jumped up and down for joy.

**Sylvia Houghton** (Infants 6)

Once upon a time there was a big bad fox and it was very lazy and one day he sat on the little tin pot house and it broke. The cat and hen all ran away and found a new house and they all lived together.

**Lorraine Tate** (Infants 6)

One day a boy had a kite and the wind was so hard that the kite got out of his hand and flew away and he did not see it again.

**Stephen Walters** (Infants 6)

Once upon a time there was a little girl who went shopping for her mother. One day her mother said to her. "Please will you get me some cheese?" That night a mouse nibbled the cheese, so they had no cheese.

**Kevin Mooney** (Infants 6)

Once upon a time there was one balloon. It was red. It went higher and higher and it got burned up by the sun.

**Karen Frost** (Infants 6)

One day there was a boy and a girl. One day the girl said, "I will go to the tree to get some apples and I will take a basket and I will go and get some apples and we will have them for tea."

**Eleanor Ross** (Infants 6)

Once upon a time there were two little girls and they were very poor little girls but they had some clothes and some money. One day they went for a walk. They walked and walked until they met a boy. He was not poor and he had some clothes and lots of money. He said to the little girls, "Would you like to come to tea with me?" "Yes," said the girls and they were very happy. They went with the boy to his house and had tea with the boy. The boy had no friends so he said to the little girls, "Will you be my friends?" "Yes, of course," said the little girls, and they made friends. They lived together and lived happily.

**Katherine Everden** (Infants 5)

## GOING TO FRANCE

One Friday my friend went to France, She was there for two weeks and when she came back she had two big parcels. One said 'Anne' on it and the other had a name called 'Ian'. There was a doll in mine and a train in Ian's. The train worked by electric. It had toy men standing at the station. It had bridges and some lights. One of the men could walk if you pressed a knob. If you pressed a little button in my doll she could walk. My brother was naughty with his train so he got an electric shock.

**Anne Trickle** (Infants 4)

## A FIRE IN LONDON

Once upon a time there was a little boy called Martin. His mother said one day, "We are going to see Granny," "Oh," said the little boy. He was so excited. They went by train. The guard



blew his whistle and waved the green flag and they got to Granny's. While they were there one day they went out shopping and Martin called out, "Look, there is a fire out there." And there was a house burning away like mad. Martin rushed to see it, but just then as he was turning the corner a fire engine came round the corner and he was run over.

Granny's basket dropped off her arm as she went rushing up the street and saw that Martin had been run over.

That was the end of Martin.

**John Kirkman (Infants 4)**

### THE CIRCUS

The acrobat is very clever. The clown drives the smokey motor car and the strong man can lift more than a thousand pounds with one arm. The seal can balance a ball on his nose. I like the dancing horse and the juggler and the elephant and the tiger that jumps through the hoop. The ringmaster whips the ground to make the horses dance.

**John Severs (Infants 4)**

### SPEEDY THE FAST BUS

One day Speedy the fast bus was taking some children to school when a speeding lorry passed him. Then with tremendous speed Speedy overtook the lorry. Every day now they overtook each other.

Soon there was a great race and the schools were closed. The children had a holiday so that they could have a chance to see the cars enter for the race. The race was on Saturday and it began at 8 a.m. There was the Bluebird which was the fastest car the world. Then suddenly lots of cars were speeding along the track. Soon an E-type Jaguar broke into the lead, a Ferrari Formula One was in second place then the Ferrari overtook and won the race.

The children went home remembering that they had to go to Sunday School for the next day was Sunday.

On Monday they would go to school on Speedy again.

**Peter Marshall (Infants 3)**

### THE HORSE AND THE SQUIRREL

Once upon a time there lived a horse and a squirrel. The horse and the squirrel were good friends. They were always playing near the river and they watched the fish swimming by.

One day the squirrel fell in the river and the horse galloped into the river and saved the squirrel. And the horse won lots of money because he saved the squirrel. Then they lived happily together in a nice little house.

**Jane Tomlinson (Infants 2)**

### ROBERT AND NIGEL GOING FOR A WALK

Once upon a time there were two boys, one named Nigel and one named Robert. One day Nigel and Robert went for a walk and Nigel said to Robert, "You are a naughty boy." "Oh no I am not." "You are a naughty boy," said Nigel. Robert said to Nigel, "I will give you a fight. Yes, I will give you a fight." So they had a fight.

Robert saw a policeman. The policeman took Nigel and Robert to the Police Station. They both went into Prison but they both came free.

One day the policeman came to their house but Nigel and Robert were not there. But one day the policeman saw Nigel and Robert and they both went to prison for a long time.

**Nigel Wharton (Infants 2)**

### THE WICKED GOBLIN

Once upon a time there was a goblin who was very wicked. His name was Gobo. Gobo was very wicked because once when all the toys were asleep he took the fairy doll, but Jumbo, the big elephant, got her back.

Once when Gobo was going to pick blackberries a witch jumped out from behind the bushes and she was a friend of the toys and the toys told her about Gobo. So she hid behind a bush and put him in a big sack and she ate him for dinner.

The toys thanked her and said goodbye and so they all lived happily and nearly every day the witch came to tea. No one was frightened of her because she was kind.

**Denise Erickson (Infants 2)**

### THE SAD DOG

Once upon a time there was a sad dog called Skipper. He was sad because he had no one to look after him. After a while he ran away from the pet shop and this is what it said in the papers.

"£1 reward if you catch Skipper." One day a man found him and took him back to the pet shop and got his £1 reward. One day another man came into the pet shop and bought Skipper and he was the happiest dog in the whole world. He had a nice kennel painted blue and green and lots of delicious dog food. Everyday the petshop man visited him and they had a happy life.

**Mark Shreeve (Infants 3)**

Long, long ago there lived a fat monkey and he climbed up a tree and he ate the bananas.

The monkey had a baby and he died of shock because it was a boy and the boy lived happily ever after.

**David Reynolds (Infants 1)**



### THE GOLDEN HORSE

Once there was a horse. No-one knew it was golden. It was hopping on three legs, not four legs, because he liked it. He was very special because he was golden and he hoped no-one knew that.

But someone knew it was a golden horse. It was a wicked lady named Mrs. White and she planned for him to be killed. Everytime he saw somebody he hid, but Mrs. White was killed instead.

His name was Golden and Golden trotted off to another land without anyone knowing. But something happened and that you'll never find out.

Sandra Bryant (Infants 2)

### THE WICKED QUEEN

Once there was a wicked queen. She was really a witch. One day she went into the woods for food and she found a little girl. She asked her if she would come to the palace with her.

The next day the Queen was horrible to the little girl. She spanked her and made her clean the whole Palace out, except where she was sitting. Then the Queen got up and her clothes were so long that she tripped over them and killed herself. Then the girl lived in the Palace and lived happily ever after.

Carolyn Budd (Infants 2)

### THE HORSE AND THE DOG

A long time ago there lived a horse. His name was Mischief and he was always getting into trouble. One day Mischief ran away because he wanted to find a friend. But he went in the woods and that was no good. But a wolf was in front of him. The wolf was killed and Mischief ran away as fast as he could.

He ran and ran until he stopped at the side of a tree and saw his friend, a black and white dog. Mischief had a good idea. He called the dog naughty and they went back to their home and their owner was very glad to see them back. But they only had more troubles because they kept hiding in the barn because they did not like a bath.

Nicola Barnes (Infants 2)

### HOP THE RABBIT

Once upon a time there lived a rabbit called Hop. One day he was out looking for food when a fox came out of a wood. Hop tried to run away but the fox was quicker and he bit off Hop's leg and he had to go to hospital. He had a hundred pricks a day. When he came out of hospital he died on the steps.

Kim Budding (Infants)

Once upon a time there was a baby bear. One day his mummy gave the baby bear a balloon and the baby bear liked the balloon very much. But one day when the baby bear was walking down the road he lost his balloon and he started to cry.

Just then he saw a little man walking down the road with a bunch of balloons in his hand. The baby bear asked the man with the bunch of balloons, "May I have one of your balloons?"

The man said, "Yes, you may have one of my balloons." So the baby bear took one of the man's balloons and ran home. But he didn't like the balloon that the man gave him as much as the balloon his mummy gave him.

Michael Moger (Infants 1)

Long, long ago there lived a King and a Queen. One day the King said, "I will go out in the forest hunting for birds."

While the King was away the Queen escaped and she ran in the forest. She ran and ran and suddenly she came to a house. In the house there was a witch and the witch said, "I will put you in a frying pan and cook dinner."

The Queen said, "No, no, no. I will not go in the frying pan."

So the witch said, "You are for dinner and I will have the other half for tea." She cooked the Queen and ate her all up.

Keith Humphrey and Martyn Giles (Infants 1)

### MR. BEAR

One day Mr. Bear went for a walk and he met Mr. Pig.

"Hello, Mr. Pig," said Mr. Bear.

"Where are you going?" said Mr. Pig.

"I am going for a walk."

"May I come with you?"

"Yes," said Mr. Bear and off they went and met Mr. Sheep.

"Where are you going?" said Mr. Sheep.

"We are going for a walk."

"May I come with you?" said Mr. Sheep.

"Yes," said Mr. Bear and off they went.

In the wood there lived a fox and he could smell the sheep so he hid behind a bush so that when they passed by he would spring out on them. Soon they passed by and he sprang out on them and Mr. Bear ran away and so did Mr. Pig. The fox caught Mr. Sheep and that was the end of him.

Paul Tee (Infants 1)



## PRAYERS AND POEMS

### PRAYER

Dear God help us to do our work at school and at home and  
in different countries and everywhere.

Frances Richards (Infants 8)

### PRAYER

Dear God help us to do our very best work.

Alan Thomson (Infants 8)

### SIX LITTLE MEN

Six little men dancing all day,  
Six little men cheering away.  
Six little men hiding away.  
Six little men having such fun.  
Six little men having a bun.  
Six little men are sleepy heads.  
Six little men are in their beds.

Jonathan Walters (Infants 8)

### THE BUMBLE BEE

Nigel and David went to sea.  
They went with a little bumble bee!

When they got to town they saw a little clown.  
The clown fell down!

He went all over the town,  
The clown was so funny.

He was like a piece of hair, and then -  
Everywhere was so bare!

Nigel Wharton (Infants 2)

### TONY THE PONY

|                       |                               |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| I have a little pony, | So if he sneezed              |
| His name is Tony.     | I will have to put him to bed |
| Everytime he sneezed  | And hope he will not be dead! |
| He shook the trees.   |                               |

Nicola Barnes (Infants 2)

### UPSIDE DOWN

When I walk in the streets  
The lights are upside down.  
And when I walk on my head  
I am upside down on my bed!

Stephen Ryan (Infants 2)

## MALTA

We like it here in Malta,  
We came here on a plane.  
We like it here in Malta  
Because it does not rain.

We do not want to go back to England,  
There it's very cold.  
But we want to see our grannie  
Before she gets too old.

Our school's name is Verdala.  
We go there on a bus,  
To get lots of knowledge  
To pass our eleven plus.

Our house is called St. Vincent,  
Our captain's name is King.  
We are top in work,  
And top in games.  
We are top in everything.

So if you would like to visit us,  
Do come on Open Day,  
We'll show you all the work we've done,  
And where we work and play.

Simon Easton (Class 1AS)

### THE SEASONS

Winter comes and brings the snow.  
And fires in every house do glow.

Spring brings out the shining sun.  
And sends the flowers out one by one.

Then Autumn brings the leaves so brown.  
Blowing, blowing over the town.

Kyle Wallace (Class 1AJ)

### FLOWERS

In all the Seasons of the year  
In sun and wind and rain.  
I can always look for pretty flowers  
Along the country lane.

Denise Head (Class 1AJ)

I had a fine swing  
And I had a fine ring.

I lost my ring,  
So I sat on my swing.

Susan Binns (Class 1BJ)



### THE SEASONS

What is Spring? Spring is cool,  
and green and bright.

What is Summer? Summer is sun -  
Too hot to walk.

What is Autumn? Clouds are Autumn,  
Oh so dark!

What is winter? Winter is cold -  
Too cold to move.

Desmond New (Class 1AJ)

### THE SEASONS

Spring is when the flowers bloom  
And on the hills there's lots of broom.

Summer's when there's lots of sun  
Children to the sea-side run.

Autumn's when the roses come  
Which children pick for everyone.

Winter's when the wind will blow  
And bring us ice and slush and snow.

Peter Franklin (Class 1AJ)

### THE KIND ELF

I saw some fairies  
All in a ring,  
One fell down  
And broke her wing.  
Out jumped an elf  
And mended it himself.

Lindy Allfrey (Class 1BJ)

### THE WIND

The wind goes blowing down the lane,  
Blowing like a windy game.  
The wind blows off people's hats,  
Which race down the street like playful cats.  
The wind goes blowing through the trees,  
Humming like the busy bees.  
The wind goes blowing down the leaves  
Setting them floating through the trees.

Luzi Anne Rodriguez (Class 2AS)

### MATILDA'S FAMILY

My name is Matilda.  
My children are many.  
A teddy who talks,  
A dolly named Jenny!  
The kitten is Mick,  
The puppy is Rex.  
Now let me think,  
I wonder who's next?  
Ah, yes a little white rabbit.  
A golliwog too,  
And last but not least  
There's dear "Baby Sue."

Judith Powell (Class 3A)

### MY TOYS

|                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Spinning tops,        | Rocking horses,     |
| Turn round and round. | Gallop fast.        |
| Big balls bounce,     | My red fire engine, |
| Without a sound.      | Races past.         |

My teddy bear,  
With lovely fur,  
Can stand all by itself.  
I have a fairy doll  
Who is sitting on a shelf.

Lynda Stevenson (Class 3B1)

### ARMADA

Drake fought Spain,  
In Elizabeth's reign.  
The great Armada,  
Was sunk in a harbour,  
And the Spaniards fought in vain.

Lynda Stevenson (Class 3B1)

### OUR BABY

We have a baby on the way  
I hope it comes one day in May.  
With hair of black and eyes of blue.  
I'll like our baby. I hope you will too.

Patricia Howlett (Class 3B1)

### THE BAD WITCH

|                               |                         |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| The witch is bad,             | She casts out spells    |
| Just like my dad.             | Then puts you in cells. |
| And if you were not satisfied |                         |
| You would get hypnotized.     |                         |

Lynn Gray (Class 4B)



### THE POISONOUS PEACH

One day John and Sister Sue,  
Walked an orchard through  
And on a branch a peach  
It grew.

Warm by the sun and wet by the dew  
The little peach grew  
All bright and new.

Up at the peach a stick they threw  
And down fell that peach,  
What a thing to do!

John took a bite and Sue took a chew.  
Then trouble began to brew.

Under the earth where buttercups grew  
They buried John and Sister Sue.  
Boo hoo!

Juliet Hammer (Class 3B1)

### MY BIKE

I would like a bike one day  
So that I could cycle to Pretty Bay.  
I'd play with my friends  
And whizz round the bends.  
And then we'd play in the hay.

Timothy Buckland (Class 3B1)

### WHAT I LIKE BEST

|                            |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Boys like cars,            | Some like Machines       |
| Girls like chocolate bars. | Some like Queens,        |
| But what I like best       | But what I like best     |
| Is a small, small guest.   | Is a small, small guest. |

My small, small guest  
Is a little doll,  
And what she likes best  
Is mustard and cress.  
Isn't she a dear little soul?

Margaret Grimes (Class 3B1)

### THE BRACE

|                             |                                |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| The brace is very horrible, | I know! the brace is horrible, |
| And I always feel horrible, | And I know! I feel horrible,   |
| For anyone who wears        | For anyone who wears           |
| A horrible, horrible brace. | A horrible, horrible brace.    |

Christina Lyon (Class 3B1)

### THE WITCH

In the middle of the night,  
Something gave me a shocking fright.  
I said to myself, "Is this a dream?"  
And then the witch made a crying scream.  
I watched her as she was flying high,  
And then she vanished in the sky.  
Then came another sailing by,  
And then came a sudden, shining beam.  
And thank goodness it was all a dream!

George Molden (Class 3B1)

### CAR RACE

This is Joe Finning,  
All set on winning.  
There goes the gun,  
And they've begun.

Round the corner comes Horner.  
And right behind,  
Comes Jay Bind.

The person who's winning,  
Guess who? It's Joe Finning!  
Right past the winning post,  
And behind comes Gill Host.

Vaughan Thomas (Class 3B1)

### MY DOLL

I had a little doll,  
Her name was Betty Lou.  
She was very sad this morning,  
Because she lost her shoe.  
We looked high,  
We looked low,  
But it could not be seen,  
You might have seen it,  
It has a bow of green.

Sheila Ward (Class 3B2)

### SPRINGTIME

Springtime is here again,  
Flowers bloom along the lane.  
New born lambs just frisk and play,  
Mother birds begin to lay.  
Springtime is the time of joy  
For every little girl and boy,  
Pretty birds are on the wing,  
All people thank God for Spring.

Jill Henwood (Class 4A)



## BOOK REVIEWS

### A BOOK REVIEW ON 'THE HOBBITS'

The Hobbits is by J. R. R. Tolkien. It is very interesting and exciting in places but perhaps a little boring at the beginning. It was about the adventures of a hobbit, (A hobbit is smaller than a dwarf). There is little or no magic about them but they can disappear quickly. A wizard and a company of dwarfs try to recover their treasure, which was guarded by a fierce dragon called Smaug, but it all came out well in the end.

Michelle Cross (Class 3A)

### SWAN LAKE

The story of Prince Siegfried and Odette is known all over the world today, for, like the story of Prince Nutcracker, it was used for a ballet with music by Tchaikovsky. It started as an old German tale.

You can see the title in French, 'Le Lac des Cygnes' which means the lake of Swans.

This story is about ten girls who have been put under a spell which is that at day time they are swans and at night they become girls again. This spell was cast over them by a wicked magician called Rothbart. This spell can be broken if someone loves the leader of the swans, (Odette), and is prepared to risk his life for her. Well Prince Siegfried does this, and it all ends well.

Rosalie Hide (Class 3A)

### MASTERS OF SOCCER

By Maurice Edelston & Terence Delaney

This book is about famous footballers who made a name for themselves in footballing history; for instance Stanley Mathews, who has the C.B.E., is still playing football at the age of forty eight.

### JIMMY GREAVES

Jimmy Greaves plays for Tottenham Hotspurs. On May 1st 1959 he played for young England against England. After being three goals down Greaves scored the equaliser after a quick dodging run through the middle.

### BILLY WRIGHT, C.B.E.

Billy Wright played for Wolverhampton Wanderers. They had beaten Moscow, Spartak, Mortorlet, Honved of Hungary and Real Madrid.

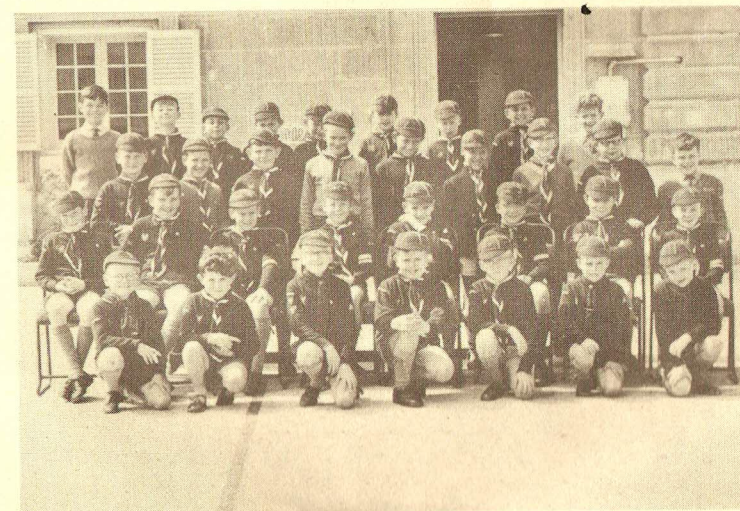
### JOHNNY HAYNES

Johnny Haynes plays for Fulham and he has played for England. In 1957-1958 he scored 15, a good total for a player who spends so much of his time making openings for others.

Keith Woodcock (Class 3A)

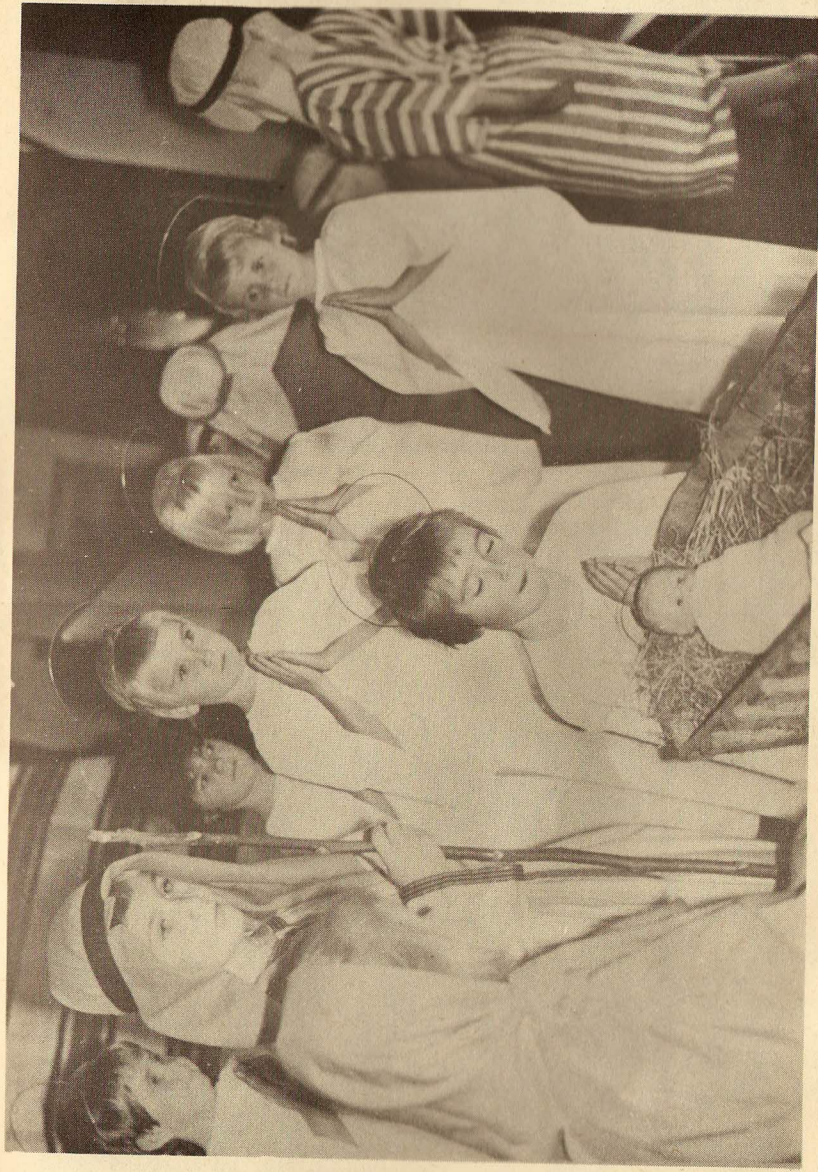
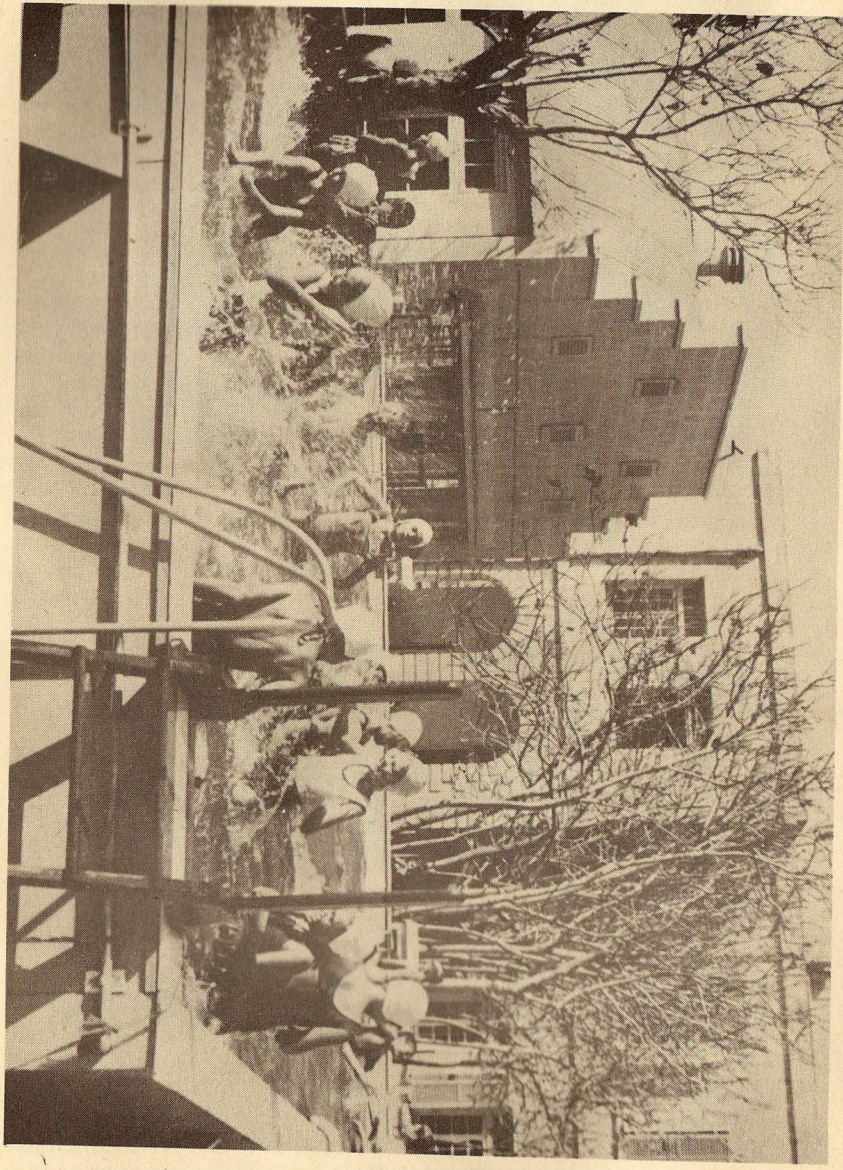


The Brownie Pack



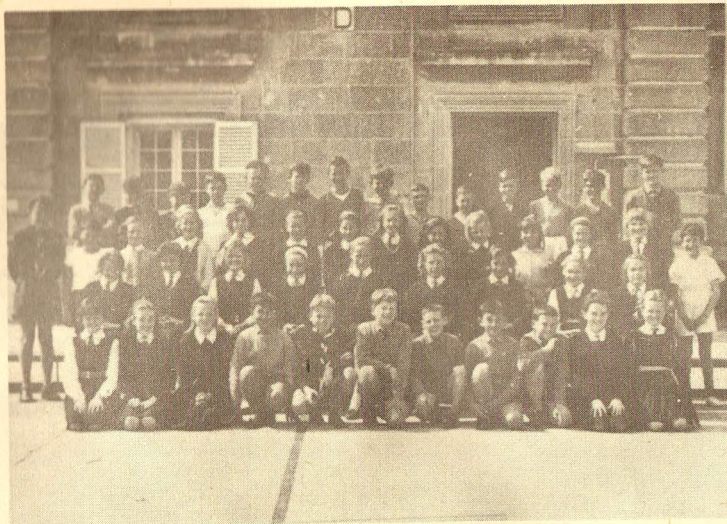
The Cub Pack



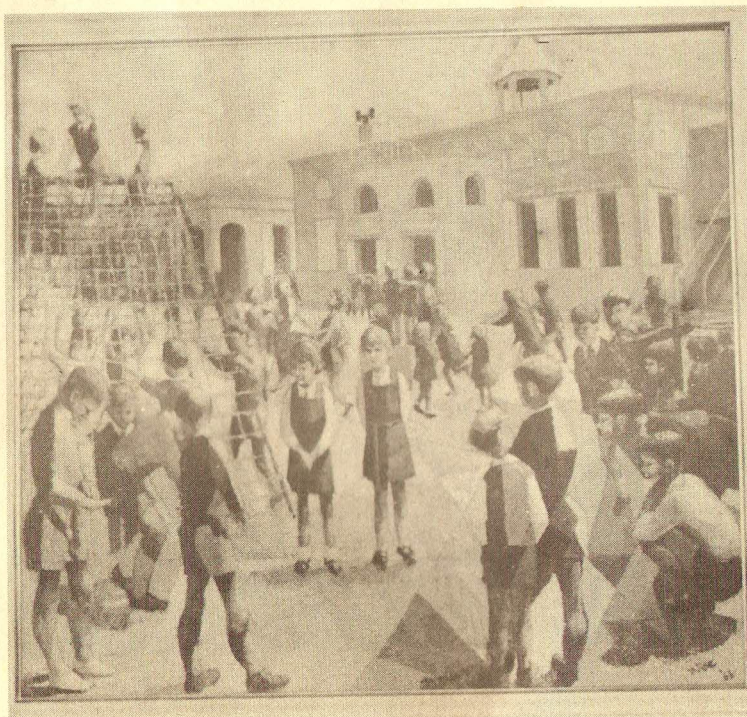


Infants' Nativity Play





The School Choir



The Playground, Verdala – from a painting by A. Wise

## A SMALL MIRACLE

By Paul Gallico

This is a tale of sadness and poverty.

The actual story is about Pepino, a small orphan boy 10 years of age, who has only one possession, Violetta his donkey.

The story tells how Violetta falls ill and Pepino determined to take her into the crypt of St. Francis where he believes that the remains of the Saint's body will cure Violetta. But when he climbs up to the Church the Monks will not let him in.

Eventually, having had no success in getting permission from more senior Church officials, Pepino decides to ask the Pope.

You will enjoy reading how Pepino finally solves his problem.

I recommend "A Small Miracle" to anyone from the age of nine years old.

Jane Morgan (Class 3A)

## THE KENNETH GRAHAME BOOK

This book is by Kenneth Grahame and I think it is more of a boys' book than a girls'. There are three books in one. The first is "The Golden Age", second "Dream Days" and last of all, "The Wind in the Willows." I like this one best because it is about animals and the others are not. Some characters in "The Golden Age" are Harold, Chalotte and Edward. The first chapter is about the Olympians who never played or did anything. In "Dream Days", we have Selina, Uncle Thomas, and Aunt Elina. The first chapter is about Trafalgar Day. Characters in "The Wind in the Willows" are, Toad, Mole, Rat and Badger. The first chapter is about a mole who is spring-cleaning and gets tired of it. So he gets up into a field. Then he goes and lives by the river with the water-rat. I recommend this book for the ages of nine upwards.

Penelope Rogers (Class 3A)

## THE TURF-CUTTER'S DONKEY

By Patricia Lynch

I think that you should be from eight to ten years for this book. It is a book full of magic happenings. In it you meet the Leprechaun, Eileen, Seamus, Long-Ears, The wise woman of Youghal, The man from the bog, Big Fella, Rose and many others.

It tells how Eileen and Seamus rescue the donkey from the gipsies. They go to the fair and on the way they meet the Leprechaun for the first time. Then, when they are at the fair, they see a little man with a pig. When Eileen tries hoop-la a hand seems to knock her and wins the prize. This is only one of the many adventures they have together.

David Connelly (Class 3A)



## **"WHAT KATY DID"**

By Susan Coolidge

This is a book about the life of a girl called Katherine Carr whom everyone calls Katy. She was a very untidy girl and a tom-boy before she fell off a swing and fractured her spine. In a few years time she recovers from her injury and walks again. During her two years of illness her aunt Izzie dies of typhoid fever and Katy is very sad. Miss Finch and kind Debbie look after her now. This is a very good book and I recommend it for all ages from nine up. The next in the series is "What Katy did at school".

Vanessa New (Class 3A)

## **JILL'S GYMKHANA**

By Ruby Ferguson

This story is about a girl who's mother write books. Jill wishes for a pony but as her father is dead they have very little money to depend on.

One day her mother receives some money for her books and Jill is given £15 of it. A farmer nearby has a horse for sale. Jill buys it and she and her friend, Ann Derry, have many exciting times with it. They decide to name the horse, 'Black Boy.'

I recommend this book to children who are interested in horses.

## **BOOK REVIEW**

I have read a book called "Enemy in Sight" by Andrew Wood. It was very interesting and exciting. The book is fictitious except for Nelson and Collingwood.

The main characters are: a mad-dog captain named McKellar, Lieutenant Jim Bowles, Able Seaman Pompey and Mastergunner Cresty.

Captain McKellar is bitterly known as "McKiller." Jim Bowles is about eighteen and known as "Boy Jim." Mastergunner Cresty is blind in one eye and therefore called "Dead-eye", and Pompey is a negro seaman.

I like the scene when H.M.S. Vestal, defeated, went down with colours flying and guns blazing. Actually it was Pompey, Mr. Cresty and Jim Bowles who kept the guns firing.

In the front of the book there are words of Admiral Collingwood:

"Some of the Fleet captains are brutes and must mend their ways, without delay.

Others of them are great gentlemen..."

I think you ought to read this interesting and exciting book.

Kelvin Holland (Class 4A)

## **SEA GOLD**

By John Blaine

John Blaine is the best author I know who writes children's electronic adventures. The best of these is "Sea Gold." It is a story which tells us about a sea mining plant built and reared by two men and their two helpers, Rick Brant and Don Scott. The story starts when Rick and Scotty are flying home to Spindthrift Island off the coast of Jersey. They notice a sea mining plant and soon get a job there for the school holidays.

They have some exciting adventures and very nearly get killed. When they succeed in getting the plant to work the two men present Rick and Scotty with a share of the plant but they do not accept it.

Ian Jordan (Class 4A)